

## Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 OPR-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W  
----- 126270

R 031424Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3454

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2510

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS MOPS ET

SUBJECT: MILITARY OPERATIONS IN ERITREA

1. USUALLY WELL-INFORMED DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUE HAS RECEIVED EYE-WITNESS REPORT THAT BRIDGE LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 80 KILOMETERS FROM ASMARA ON THE MASSAWA ROAD HAD BEEN DESTROYED BY THE ELF. REPORTEDLY ARRANGING A DETOUR WOULD BE DIFFICULT. COMMENT: CF. NAVCOMUNIT ASMARA'S 030100Z MAR PARA 2C. CONGEN ASMARA UNDERSTANDS THAT ALLEGED BREAK COULD EASILY BE BRIDGED. END COMMENT.

2. ANOTHER EYE-WITNESS SOURCE REPORTED 30 TRUCKS FULLY LOADED WITH COMBAT TROOPS AND SOME TOWING FIELD GUNS MOVING TOWARD KEREN MORNING OF MARCH 3. LATER 20 MORE FULLY LOADED TRUCKS FOLLOWED FIRST CONVOY.

3. MISSIONARY SOURCES REPORT THAT ETHIOPIAN ARMY ELEMENTS WHICH HAD BEEN STATIONED IN AND AROUND ADERDE (BETWEEN KEREN AND AGORDAT) HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN. AREA NOW FULLY IN CONTROL OF APPROXIMATELY 300 ELF TROOPS.

4. COLLEAGUE AND SEVERAL ETHIOPIAN SOURCES HAD SEVERAL REPORTS  
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OF APPARENT HEAVY FIGHTING BETWEEN ETHIOPIAN ARMY AND INSURGENT

FORCES ON ASMARA ROAD, 15-17 KILOMETERS FROM KEREN. THESE REPORTS  
INDICATE THAT LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES WERE HEAVY AND SOME ASSERT  
THAT THE ARMY SUFFERED A SETBACK; OTHERS CALL IT EVEN.  
WYMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 AUG 2003  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MILITARY OPERATIONS IN ERITREA  
**TAGS:** PINS, MOPS, ET  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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